



**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Austin Utilities Announces Retirements, Advancements

AUSTIN, Minn. February 1, 2024 - Austin Utilities (AU) today announced the retirement of Ann Christianson, Finance Manager with 33 years of service effective March 31, 2024. “Thank you to Ann and for her long-term career at Austin Utilities. Ann was careful to balance revenues with expenses and always maintained a focus on customer fairness. We wish her the best in her retirement.” said Mark Nibaur, General Manager at Austin Utilities. Ann started her career at Austin Utilities in 1991 as an accountant. She was promoted to Finance Manager in 2001.

During her tenure, Ann has seen many changes in the accounting industry, including two significant software conversions at AU. Her responsibilities have included managing the annual budgeting and auditing processes.

Ann led many rate studies and was active in minimizing rate increases. Her contributions extend to securing the bond financing for the 2012 General Obligation Water Revenue Bonds and the 2015 General Obligation Capital Improvement Plan Bonds. She also developed a process for FEMA mutual aid reimbursement that Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association (MMUA) continues to use today.

Beyond her financial duties, Ann has been a member of the AU Wellness and bill redesign committees.

Looking ahead to her retirement, Ann plans to dedicate more time to her grandchildren and traveling more.

As a result of Ann’s retirement, Austin Utilities welcomes Kory Robinson as the new Finance and Customer Care Director. “We welcome Kory to the AU team and look forward to his guidance and leadership” said Nibaur.

Kory’s background includes 20 years of finance experience across multiple industries. He is a graduate of DeVry University and Keller Graduate School. His most recent experience was as a Plant Controller at Federal-Mogul in Lake City, MN. Beyond the workplace, Kory’s interests include camping, hiking, bike riding, and Jeeping. Additionally, Kory dedicates time to volunteering with local Boy Scout Troop, Music Booster and other Non-profit organizations.

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Austin Utilities is a municipal utility serving approximately 12,300 electric customers, 10,300 natural gas customers, and 9,000 water customers. Their mission is to offer utility products and services in a safe, reliable and responsible manner in order to enhance the quality of life in our community. Austin Utilities' Board of Commissioners are elected by the consumer-owners of Austin to represent their best interest. For more information on Austin Utilities visit their website at www.austinutilities.com.